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1320/11237

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December 11, 2012

Annotated Bibliography: Impact of Family Structure on Children

Fomby, Paula, and Andrew J. Cherlin. "National Center for Biotechnology Information." *National Center for Biotechnology Information*. U.S. National Library of Medicine, Oct. 2009. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

Writer Paula Fomby and Cherlin Andrew suggest that children who experience multiple transitions in family structure may face worse developmental outcomes than children raised in stable two-parent families and possibly even children raised in stable, single-parent families. However, multiple transitions and negative child outcomes may be associated because of common causal factors such as parents’ ancestor’s behaviors and attributes. Using a nationally-representative, two-generation longitudinal survey that includes detailed information on children’s behavioral and cognitive development, family history, and mother’s attributes prior to the child’s birth, they examine those alternatives. The results suggest that, for white children, the association between the number of family structure transitions and cognitive outcomes is largely explained by mother’s prior characteristics but that the relationship between the number of transitions and behavioral outcomes may be causal in part.

These two authors effectively present their case studies in this article. They present all aspects possible that might take part by presenting background along with every effect plausible. To conclude they present all statistics along with a summarization of each hypothesis’ outcome.

# This article gives much needed statistics and informational background on family’s instability, and the well being of the child. Instability referring to transitions which include parents’ separation, a cohabiting romantic partner’s move into, or out of, the home of a single parent, the remarriage of a single (non-cohabiting) parent, or the disruption of a remarriage.

Olszowy, Halie. "60 The Effects of Income, Gender, Parental Involvement on the Education of Children with Single-Parent and Step-Parent Families." *Home | University of New Hampshire*. N.p., n.d. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

This article examines the findings of various authors on the topics of family structure and educational success. By examining the dynamics of income, gender, and parental involvement within both single-parent and step-parent families, they are able to better understand how those three dynamics vary between both single and step-parent families and may cause differences academically for children living in those family structures.

This author is straight forward and doesn’t beat around the bush. She states what she will be doing and does it. Lacking data and statistics she make up for through sources and different pieces of literature, providing the audience a well variety of different understanding making it easier to comprehend.

This article helps argue the point that parental involvement plays a role within each family structure and affect’s education. It will help bring so back up/alternative perspectives to the argument.

Carter, Susanne. "The Impact of Parent / Family Involvement on Student Outcomes." *Direction Service | HOME*. CADRE, Fall 2002. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

Suzanne Carter discusses the impact of parent and family involvement on student outcomes. Carter touches base on every aspect thinkable that could possible affect a child’s educational outcome. She talks about art, culturally diverse populations, early childhood, elementary education, homework, mathematics, middle school, reading, science, secondary education, social studies, and writing. She sheds light on all the different areas children can be affected and gives description in each section of the possible negative effects.

Carter’s use of headings, subheadings, and index help and modify the clarity of the article becoming easier to read and understand. She brings up great points and advice on how different areas affect a child along with the full development of one and description for each stage to go with.

This article brings in everything possible needed for the argument and then some. Her different aspect and studies of family structure help provide enough statistics and information to back up every claim.

Mackay, Ross. "The Impact of Family Structure and Family Change on Child Outcomes: A Personal Reading of the Research Literature." *- Ministry of Social Development*. Minister of Social Development, 24 Apr. 2005. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

The article provides a brief overview of the research on the impacts of family structure and family change on a child’s outcomes, with a particular focus on parental separation. The author has laid out sections devoted to the different family structures possible and has each description of the effects possible in the sections.

Mackay presents this article out to be very opinionated when in doubt it is very educated and supplied with statistics and data to back up his claims about each sectioned off family structure. With the statistics and the subheadings leading into each section makes the read more appealing then what it starts out to be.

This article presents the full information along with statistics that will back up each claim about each different family structure background that is place. Mackay makes it easily to understand along with finding what you need when you need it. This article is a must in the argument.

Schneider, Barbara, Allison Atteberry, and Ann Owens. "Family Matters: Family Structure and Child Outcomes." *Alabama Policy Institute*. Alabama Policy Institute, June 2005. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

Barbara Schneider, Allison Atteberry and Ann Owen presents existing evidence between family structure and child achievement, social misbehaviors, and well-being in this article. While identifying several practical problems associated with many of these studies. They are very vocal about the difficulties in drawing connecting conclusions about specific factors through which family structure affects children’s achievements.

In this article the layout of where to find certain section and the headings along with subheadings make it extremely easy to find just what you are looking for without having to play hide and seek with the words. With the authors pointing out a lot of aspects that go along with the topic making every possible inference to what could happen to children with different family structure’s they give great statistics and explanations.

The information placed in this article by the authors will help present different affects to my argument making it even stronger. The information is very helpful and easily understood. It places a true realization on the affect of family structure and how it could later impact the children.

Uwaifo, V. O. "The Effects of Family Structure and Parenthood on the Academic Performance of Nigerian University Students." *Krepublishers*. Kamla-Raj, 2008. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

This article examines the effects of family structure and parenthood on the academic performance of Nigerian university students. The sample for the study consisted of 240 students drawn randomly. The results showed significant differences existed between the academic performance of students from single parent family and those from two parent family structures. The results also indicated significant differences in academic performance of male and female students compared on two types of family structures.

While informing from a different countries point of view on academic proformance from different family structures Uwaifo is informative through a brief summarization of research along with statistics as well as abundance of data. The besides the article being very dull making it extremely hard to fully read through there are valid points.

This article helps the argument by giving information from another countries point of view and statistically stating facts that aren’t just affecting people in the U.S. but having impacts elsewhere as well. While also adding solutions that can be made to help children who face family problems improve their academics.

Desai, Amy. "Marriage & Relationships." *How Could Divorce Affect My Kids?* Focus On The Family, 2007. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

In this article Amy Desai presents the affect of divorce in a family and how divorce is no small thing to children. While pointing out the ultimate negative and saying it is the violent ripping apart of parents, a loss of stability and often a complete shock. Coming from an obvious parent point of view stating “we” throughout the article, she shows that a lot of time parents often think of children as resilient, but going through such trauma is a lot to ask of kids. She shows infuses that parents should take a long pause before choosing divorce. While it may seem like a solution, it's not an easy out for the kids.

The author opened the article with a catchy quote showing the perceptive of a child’s point of view in divorce. Eye catching and informative to enlighten those who have don’t understand a child’s anger, frustration, or depression from the separation. While incorporating statistics along with research things are kept in a light hearted kind of mood, not attacking so it keeps the audience captivated to divulge more.

This article lets one see the child’s point of view, and where they come from. Providing a case study which includes a girls experience of divorce and the emotions she had and why. These perceptions given help provide valid personal evidence in my argument from someone who actually went through a family divorce and the impact it had on her life.

Antecol, Heather, and Kelly Bedard. "Does Single Parenthood Increase the Probability of Teenage Promiscuity, Substance Use, and Crime?" *Home - Springer*. Springer-Verlag, 12 Oct. 2005. Web. 11 Dec. 2012.

Heather Antecol and Kelly Bedard purpose this paper to present that there is longstanding evidence that youths raised by single parents are more likely to perform poorly in school and partake in “deviant” behaviors such as smoking, sex, substance use, and crime. However, they state that there is no widespread agreement as to whether the timing of the marital disruption differentially impacts youth outcomes. Using the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth and its Young Adult Supplement, they find out that an additional 5 years with the biological father decreases the probability of smoking, drinking, engaging in sexual activity, marijuana use, and conviction by approximately 5.3, 1.2, 3.4, 2.2 and 0.3 percentage points, respectively.

Antecol and Bedard effectively use headings and subheadings to not only grab the audience attention but give key into what the next section is mainly about. Making it easier on the reader to digest, as well as flow through the article with ease of understanding.

The article is packed full of valuable statistics that are current and the issues talked about in this article go right along with the argument about the impact on family structure on children. Along with discussing the academic side they make another great point about misconduct to include into my argument.